



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON

July 25, 2001

Memorandum for Under Secretary for Health, Under Secretary for Benefits,
and Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs

Subject: Information Technology Governance

1. Effective immediately, please advise your respective Chief Information Officer (CIO) that they will take their technology direction and guidance from the Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, and the Department's Chief Information Officer. Further, the Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology will approve planning and technical documentation prior to expending funds for any information technology program, project or initiative. This directive covers all information and technology projects within your organization.
2. This should not be viewed as an organizational change. Your CIO and their respective organizations still report to you through your current organizational structures. The official responsible for evaluating the performance of your CIO shall seek and include an evaluation of technical and managerial performance from the Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology in each CIO's respective Annual Performance Report. This is an important step in bringing the Department into compliance with the mandates of the Clinger-Cohen Act through a "dotted line" matrix approach.
3. To ensure compliance, please issue implementing directives and modify existing policies and guidelines, as applicable. Procedural questions may be directed to Judge Guy H. McMichael III, Acting Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology and Chief Information Officer, at 273-8855.

/s/Anthony J. Principi